

concerned. A list of the total deliveries during the war of some of the common articles of clothing shows the size of the task. They are given in Table 3. The cost of the articles listed was more than \$1,000,000,000.

All these garments could be made in ordinary commercial factories, but their quantity was so enormous that at a number of times during the war it was feared that the demand would run ahead of the supply. When the troop movement was speeded up in the spring of 1918 the margin on woollen clothing was dangerously narrow. To secure these and other

TABLE 3.—*Clothing Delivered to the Army April 6, 1917, to May 31, 1918.*

Articles	Total Delivered	Articles	Total Delivered
Wool stockings.....pairs	131,800,000	Blankets.....	21,700,000
Undershirts.....	85,000,000	Wool breeches.....	21,700,000
Underdrawers.....	83,600,000	Wool coats.....	13,900,000
Shoes.....pairs	30,700,000	Overcoats.....	8,300,000
Flannel shirts.....	26,500,000		

articles in sufficient quantity it was found necessary in many cases for the Army to take control of all stages of the manufacturing process, from assembling the raw material to inspecting the finished product. For many months preceding the armistice the War Department was owner of all the wool in the country. From September, 1918, to June, 1919, if the troop movement had continued, Army needs were estimated at 246,000,000 pounds of clean wool, while the amount allotted to civilian needs was only 15,000,000 pounds. The British Army had in a similar way some years before taken control of the English wool supply in order to meet army and navy needs. Their requirements were, however, less than ours, to the extent that they did not need such a large reserve in France and practically none in transit. Their requirements per man for equipment were for this reason about two-thirds as great as ours.

Somewhat the same story might be told for about 30,000 kinds of commercial articles which the Army purchased. Purchases included food, forage, hardware, coal, furniture,